

Brown's Berry Patch. The survival of this family farm over two centuries is a remarkable store of passion and hard work.

In 1804, Elijah and Bathshua Brown bought a 100-acre farm along the Oak Orchard River, just south of Lake Ontario, in what is now Waterport, NY. While moving his family to their new home, Elijah died, and Bathshua was left to settle her five sons and seven daughters in the unbroken wilderness of Upstate New York. Elijah Jr., planted the first apple trees in the county, and thus the Brown Family Farm began.

Bathshua began to build what would become one of the most historic and celebrated farms in Upstate New York. Years before, during the Revolutionary War, the British pillaged and burned the Browns' first farm on Fisher Island, CT. During the War of 1812, British war ships again threatened the Brown family as they patrolled the shores of Lake Ontario. In a remarkable coincidence, the very same captain who had burned the Brown's first farm was captured on the shores of Oak Orchard River and brought to Bathshua, the area's matriarch, for judgment. She let him go with a warning never to return.

Leadership of the Brown Family Farm passed from generation to generation. In 1895, Brown descendants Harry and Pearl began growing fruit on the farm. At one point, the family was said to have the largest quince orchard in the world. In the 1940's, the family transitioned out of growing fresh fruit, and began selling apples, quince, cherries, pears and plums for processing. Around 1980, Robert Brown II and his wife Deborah again transitioned the farm back into one that produced fresh fruit for consumption. They planted strawberries, raspberries, and blueberries for people to come pick themselves.

Today, under the leadership of Robert II and Deborah Brown, and Eric and Margy Brown, Brown's Berry Patch is one of the most popular agritourist destinations in Western New York, and a highly successful direct marketer of fresh produce. In 2003, the North American Farmers Direct Marketing Association Conference chose Brown's Berry Patch as a Farm Direct Marketer of the Year Finalist.

Visitors to Brown's Berry Patch come away not only with fresh, nutritious produce, but with memories that will last a lifetime. In an age when so many family farms struggle to survive, it is gratifying to know that Brown's Berry Patch is thriving, continuing to provide Western New York with fresh fruit and a greater understanding of traditional American agriculture. I congratulate Brown's Berry Patch on their 200th anniversary, and for their dedication to promoting tourism and agriculture in Western New York.

RECOGNIZING LEONARD PITTS, JR.
FOR BEING AWARDED THE 2004
PULITZER PRIZE IN JOURNALISM FOR COMMENTARY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Leonard Pitts, Jr. of The Miami Herald, winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize in Journalism for Commentary.

As a long-time fan of Mr. Pitts' work, I am delighted that he has been honored with this very prestigious award.

Leonard Pitts is a hugely talented writer with a sharp eye and a sharp wit. Newspaper readers in Miami and around the country who are fortunate to read his column would surely agree. Mr. Pitts' work is an important contribution to the social and political debate in America, and I am immensely grateful for his dedication to upholding the highest standard of his craft.

Formerly a pop music critic, Leonard Pitts was hired by The Miami Herald in 1991. By 1994 he was writing about race and current affairs in his own column. Syndicated nationally, Leonard Pitts 1999 book *Becoming Dad: Black Men and the Journey to Fatherhood* was a bestseller.

After the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., Pitts' Herald column headlined "We'll Go Forward From This Moment" was widely circulated on the Internet and frequently quoted in the press. In the column, Pitts bluntly expressed his anger, defiance and resolve to an unnamed evil terrorist. He wrote, "You monster. You beast. You unspeakable bastard." These words, which I remember reading the first time, expressed what so many of us were feeling at the moment and still feel today.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share this moment with Leonard Pitts, Jr. and his family. On behalf of this body, I express my congratulations to him and wish him well.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF ST. PAUL'S HOUSE

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the veterans of World War II who now make their home at St. Paul's House and Health Center in Chicago.

Their wartime experiences are as varied as the paths they took following the war, but all remain united to defend the values that shape our identity as a nation: love of freedom and respect for human dignity.

Few members of "greatest generation" spoke about their wartime experiences without evoking painful physical and emotional recollections of the horrors of their experiences in World War II.

Still, in their seventies and eighties, the veterans of St. Paul's House are again demonstrating their heroism and commitment to this country by recounting these memories for the Chicago World War II Veterans Anthology and the United States Library of Congress.

As Memorial Day approaches and we prepare to dedicate the National World War II Memorial in our nation's capital, it is my honor and privilege to pay tribute to the each of St. Paul's World War II veterans—and their families—who proudly wore the uniform of their country, endured the rigors of the war, and fought for our liberty and the freedom of future generations of Americans:

Betty Barouski, Lawrence Bunge, Betty Bunge, Edward Bylica, Loraine Bylica, Milton Cohen, Leslie Cousins, Hilda Cousins, spouse, Harry DeCourres, Mildred Eiman,

Margret Ehmann, Sima Eckma, Henry Faeth, Alice Faeth, Henry Grantschnig, Henry Kaster, John Lasser, Heinze Ledtje, Vladan Markovic, John Persson, William Prielozny, Fred Schubert, Frank Sontowski, Bruno Solback, Lydia Sollberger, Charles Tennent, George Wahl, Albert Wood, Lucille Wolf.

A TRIBUTE TO AMERICHoice

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of AmeriChoice for its ten years of quality health care services to the many residents of Brooklyn.

AmeriChoice began serving residents of Brooklyn in January 1994 as Managed Healthcare Systems (MHS), and today, it is a premier health plan available to beneficiaries of Medicaid, Medicare, the Child Health Plus Program and the State's Family Health Plus program.

AmeriChoice is one of the few for-profit companies that has long been and continues to remain committed to the vital public sector segment of the health care market. Currently, it serves more than 100,000 members with a staff of 170 dedicated employees.

In spite of its growing members, AmeriChoice has maintained a personalized focus to members' health care needs using the innovative Personal Care Model which extends beyond the traditional borders of health care to involve families, community organizations and government agencies in developing practical solutions which maintain the highest possible functional health status for members.

AmeriChoice has received a national HERA Award from the American Association of Health Plans which recognizes the significant work this health plan has done to increase the number of children receiving five or more comprehensive well-child visits with a physician during the first 15 months of life.

Mr. Speaker, AmeriChoice has been a valued organization of the Brooklyn community for ten years, serving as a premier health plan available to beneficiaries of Medicaid, Medicare, the Child Health Plus Program and the State's Family Health Plus program. As such, it is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable organization.

RECOGNIZING THE MARLA BENNETT ISRAEL DISCOVERY CENTER AND GARDEN

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden at the Shalom Institute Camp and Conference Center, home of Camp JCA Shalom, located in the beautiful Malibu mountains.

The Center will be dedicated on June 6, 2004 in honor of Marla Bennett, a remarkable

and vibrant young woman whose life was tragically taken on July 31, 2002 in the terrorist attack in the cafeteria at Hebrew University Mt. Scopus campus in Jerusalem.

Marla was a 24-year-old recent graduate of the University of California at Berkeley who was studying to obtain her masters' degree at Hebrew University. She was also training at the Pardes Institute to become a Jewish educator.

Marla was well-known to the Jewish community at Berkeley and was a familiar face at countless organizations, including Hillel and Bayit, the Jewish student cooperative of UC Berkeley.

Marla grew up at Camp JCA Shalom as a camper, counselor-in-training, counselor, unit head and, during the summer of 2001, the program director. During her time at Camp JCA Shalom, she touched the lives of thousands of campers and staff.

Her infectious personality and compassion for others will be memorialized in the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden this weekend. The Center is an interactive hands-on learning center that teaches about the land, history and people of Israel; the flora and fauna of modern and ancient Israel; the relationship between Judaism and the environment; environmental awareness and protection; Jewish traditions, thoughts and values; and organic gardening and farming.

During the summer, thousands of Camp JCA Shalom campers ages seven through 17 will have the opportunity to experience the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden. Throughout the year, the Center will be open to the community for field trips, weekend retreats and long-term educational studies.

The Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden is housed at the Shalom Institute Camp and Conference Center. Nestled in a beautiful wooded canyon in the Malibu Mountains and only 45 minutes from downtown Los Angeles, the Shalom Institute provides campers of all ages positive Jewish experiences, a greater appreciation for the environment and lots of fun activities. From children to seniors, the Shalom Institute offers exciting programs throughout the year for campers of all ages.

The Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden will be a welcome addition to the Shalom Institute and will serve to keep Marla's exuberant spirit and memory alive. I ask my colleagues to join me in the dedication of the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden.

ST. JOHNS RIVER VETERANS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, on Memorial Day, May 31, 2004 a ceremony was held in Central Florida in commemoration of naming the new Interstate 4 bridge connecting Volusia and Seminole Counties as the "St. Johns River Veterans Memorial Bridge".

The designation of this structure, a principal transportation link, was made possible by action of the Florida Legislature; by an Act signed into law by Governor Jeb Bush on May

13, 2004; and by resolutions adopted by the Seminole County Commission and the Volusia County Council.

While it was my privilege to recommend naming the bridge in honor of all veterans who have served our Nation, I would like to express my appreciation—and that of all Florida veterans and citizens—to those State and local leaders who made this tribute to our veterans and special designation possible:

Governor Jeb Bush.

Members of the Florida Senate representing Seminole and Volusia Counties—Sen. Evelyn J. Lynn, Chair of the Volusia County Legislative Delegation; Sen. Lee Constantine; Sen. Anna P. Cowin; Sen. Anthony C. "Tony" Hill, Sr.; Sen. James E. "Jim" King, Jr.; Sen. Bill Posey; and Sen. Daniel Webster.

Members of the Florida House of Representatives representing Seminole and Volusia Counties—Rep. David Simmons, Chair of the Seminole County Legislative Delegation; Rep. Sandra "Sandy" Adams; Rep. Carey Baker; Rep. Joyce Cusack; Rep. Suzanne M. Kosmas; Rep. David J. Meador; Rep. Pat Patterson; and Rep. Joe H. Pickens.

The Seminole County Commission—Chairman Daryl G. McLain and Commissioners Carlton D. Henley; Grant Maloy; Randall C. Morris and Dick Van Der Weide.

The Volusia County Council—Chairman Dwight Lewis and Council Members Joie Alexander; Frank Bruno, Jr.; Jack Hayman; Joe Jaynes; Bill Long and Patricia Northey.

Furthermore, I would like to recognize four families who lost loved ones in service to our Nation and who participated in the Memorial Day dedication ceremony. These eight individuals represented many other families and Americans who have made similar, great sacrifices:

Jesse and Arbutus Beall. Their son, Specialist 4 Charles Richard Beall, was killed in action in Kontum, South Vietnam on March 6, 1968 while serving in the United States Army.

Jim and Sandy Wetmore. Their son, Airman 1st Class Brian William McVeigh of the United States Air Force, was killed in a terrorist attack on the Khobar Towers Military Complex in Saudi Arabia on June 25, 1996.

Mrs. Jill Roberts and her son, Jacob. Jill's husband and Jacob's father, Corporal Robert D. Roberts of the United States Army, died on November 22, 2003 while serving in Baghdad, Iraq.

Mrs. Minna Earnest and her son, Brian. Minna's husband and Brian's father, Commander Charles M. Earnest of the United States Navy, perished at sea during combat operations in North Vietnam on November 28, 1972, and Minna's son and Brian's brother, Charles Bradley Earnest, a member of the United States Army Special Forces, died on August 21, 1999 from injuries previously sustained during combat training.

Each day in Central Florida as tens of thousands of travelers cross the St. Johns River Veterans Memorial Bridge, they will be reminded of the price these and thousands of other veterans and their families have paid for the freedoms all Americans enjoy.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH SMALL EMPLOYER AC- CESS TO JUSTICE ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DELAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this legislation. The bills before us today do not merely amend or modernize the historic Occupational Safety and Health Act, which put in place critical workplace protections—rather, they undermine it.

One discourages OSHA from citing small employers who would otherwise be in violation of the law, while another weakens the ability of the Secretary of Labor to enforce those laws. Another allows this Administration to stack the OSHA commission for political purposes, while the last gives employers more leeway in challenging OSHA citations.

In every sense, these are blatantly anti-employee changes to existing law, intended to take power away from average working people and put it in the hands of employers in the hope that they will not abuse that power. All of this is being done under the guise of "reducing red tape."

But I suppose we should not be surprised. After all, this is merely another in a long line of anti-employee acts taken by this Administration and majority. First it was throwing out a decade of research that went into those carefully crafted ergonomics regulations—in a day, Republicans sent the American people a clear message that the corporate bottom line was more important than safety in the workplace. Then it was ramming through overtime rules that took away time-and-a-half pay for 8 million workers and endorsing the outsourcing of American jobs to other countries. Now they decimate a historic law to protect American workers from unsafe working conditions.

The American people are increasingly finding themselves at odds with this Administration and its reckless disregard for working people—and it is no wonder. To them, regulations that protect people in the workplace are, quote, "red tape."

Mr. Speaker, tell that to families of the 60,000 employees who die every year from job-related injuries or illnesses. Tell that to the 4.7 million people who are injured each year at work. Because legislation like this not only insults the work the people of this country do everyday—it reveals a total lack of appreciation for the people, the institutions and the values that built this country and made it great. Oppose these unfair, un-American bills.

CONGRATULATING BRUCE V. RAUNER OF CHICAGO

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend Bruce V. Rauner of Chicago and the Rauner Family Foundation for being honored by the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago, which is awarding Bruce with its prestigious Humanitarian Award at the